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DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF WOMAN.

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Editor and Proprietor.

Woman's Rights Convention.

SPEECHES BY MRS. LUCY STONE (BLACKWELL) MRS. MARY F. DAVIS, MRS. ELIZABETH JONES AND MR. WENDELL PHILLIPS.

In response to a call from Mrs. Paulina Wright Davis and Mrs. Lucy Stone (Blackwell), President and Secretary of the last year's Woman's Rights Convention, those interested in Woman's Rights met yesterday morning, in the Tabernacle, to the number of a thousand. Three-fourths of those present were ladies.

The Convention was called to order by Mrs. Paulina Wright Davis, who stated that at a little meeting which they had held the night before, they had determined upon a list of officers, and she proposed Mrs. Lucy Stone (Blackwell) for President of the Convention.

The Ayes were so very faint, that when the new President had taken the presidential position, she felt compelled to call on the ladies to express themselves more loudly on the succeeding votes. The following officers were elected by louder voices.

Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Lucretia Mott, of Pa.; Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, of Ohio; Mr. T. W. Higginson, of Mass.; Mrs. Cornelia Moore, of N. J.; Mr. A. Brownson Alcott, of N. H.; Mrs. Sarah H. Halleck, of New York, and Mrs. C. I. H. Nichols, of Kansas.

Secretaries, Mrs. Martha C. Wright, of New York; Mr. Oliver Johnson, of this city; and Mrs. Henrietta Johnson, of New Jersey.

Business Committee.—Mrs. Ernestine L. Rose, Mr. Wendell Phillips, Miss Susan B. Anthony, Mr. T. W. Higginson, Mr. James Mott, Mrs. M. A. W. Johnson, and Mr. William Green, jr.

Treasurer.—Mr. Wendell Phillips.

Finance Committee.—Miss Susan B. Anthony.

The President, in a speech of some length, then detailed the progress which had been made since the commencement of the Woman's Rights movement. When they began there was not a wife who could own what she earned—there was not one now in New York—nor was there one who could make a will unless her husband stated in it that he gave her his permission, or who could hold property unless it was vested in trustees. Now, in Massachusetts they had been heard before a Constitutional Convention, and their petition for suffrage rejected only because, as they had but two thousand names to it, the Convention inferred that the great mass of the women of Massachusetts did not desire it. And two years ago, when the men of Massachusetts took the control of the State out of the hands of the Huikerism of Boston, statutes were passed giving married women the right to own property, real or personal, to their own earnings and to make a will. Maine, New-

Hampshire and Rhode Island had modified their statutes very considerably. In Vermont, according to the old law, when a man died leaving no children, half his property went to his wife and half to the State. They now thought more of the wife than of the State there. In New-York, Mrs. Rose and Susan B. Anthony had been before the Legislature, and for the last two years there had been a bill before the legislature providing that when a husband is a drunkard or a profligate, his wife shall have a right to what she earns. Ohio had modified her laws very much, and Wisconsin had given almost all they could ask, except the right of suffrage. And last year there were three mainly men found there who dared report in favor of free suffrage for women as well as men. In Michigan, two years ago, it was proposed that women should have the right to their own babies; (parenthetically to the audience, none of you have") but there was one Mormon member of the Legislature who defeated the bill. Still farther West, in Nebraska, when Mrs. Bloomer sent in a petition asking that women should have the right to vote, a bill to that effect passed the House, and in the Senate went to a third reading, and was lost only on account of the early closing of the session. They would get the right there first if anywhere, and she knew scores of women who would go to Nebraska to live, when they could get the right of suffrage there; for they said it was better to be citizens than to be subjects.—They had claimed, too, for women, the advantages of a higher and broader culture, and there were springing up all over the land female colleges.—Her curse was upon them for their results; her blessing for what they stood for. They were all second rate, but they showed that woman's claim of the highest opportunity for culture would be granted to her. Horace Mann had told her that at Antioch College, a woman had solved problems in mathematics which no man there could do. In England, too, there was some agitation. She had lately seen an article in the London Times, and last Winter a petition, which was sent to Parliament by the Howitts, Harriet Martineau, and Mrs. Jamieson, was presented by Lord Brougham, and received with respect.

The admirable essay of Mr. Higginson on Woman and her Wishes, and a sermon by Theodore Parker had been reprinted there. A compilation of British Law in relation to Woman had also been published. During the Presidential Campaign, everywhere, the Republicans had said that there would be seats reserved for the ladies at their meetings, and when Mr. Fremont was to be seen in New York, there was no peace among the people until Jessie came out too. They all recognized Woman's Rights to have something at least to do with politics. And so she came there with fresher hope in her heart. They had advertised that certain speakers would be present; but if any man or woman had an earnest word to say for or against them, God forbid that any such should be crowded out. They should commence their session at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ A. M. and 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ P. M.

Mrs. Rose, Chairman of the Business Committee asked that Committee to retire.

Mrs. Mary F. Davis was then introduced. She commenced with a sketch of the condition of wo-

men in the earlier and more barbarous ages; when man little thought that the passive being by his side, whom he regarded as scarcely better than his horse, was to be his redeeming angel, and traced the progress of the emancipation of woman in knowledge and action, bringing the memory of queens and authoresses to witness and illustrate it. In the material realm woman's power was very great. It was in a great measure by the women of England that the abolition of Slavery on English soil was effected, and she hoped that this influence of woman would soon make itself felt all over the land of the free and the home of the brave. But more than this was her influence spiritual and artistic. In the far future woman would be able to love without self-annihilation at the shrine of her devotion. But there was a long work to do first. She read passages from Judge Reeve's statement of the law in relation to woman, asserting the right of the husband to the person of his wife, which was, under the law, as complete as that of a master to his slave. If she could bind herself by a contract she would be liable to imprisonment for violating it, and might thus be taken from her husband. This, the law would not allow; therefore she must not have the right to make contracts. This right of the husband to the person of the woman, Mrs. Davis thought, one of the most prolific causes of woman's woes; producing, as it did, a mass of legalized licentiousness, which was as destructive to the health and morals of the offspring as to the health and happiness of the wife. A beautiful woman, whose husband was a rich and influential man, and who had a number of beautiful children, took prussic acid not long ago. People wondered why she, the favored one should do the fearful deed. She (Mrs. Davis) had read her heart, and she knew that the marble balls in which she lived were a prison to her, and her silken robes were chains that bound her to a tyrant's lust. How many a wretched woman tremble at the sound of a familiar voice, which should fill her soul with music, and quailed at the glance of that eye which should send the sunshine dancing to her heart. How many went to their lords like menials for the pittance which their necessities required, and felt all their nature outraged by the sense of beggary forced on them by the grudgingness of the bestowal. How many more found themselves chained for life to monsters of intemperance and vice, who robbed them of their earnings under the sanction of the law, and forced them into the untold tortures of unwilling maternity, cursing their offspring in the very begetting with the infernal inheritance of physical and moral pollution. This deprivation of personal liberty had, through all the ages, been working with terrible effect on the destiny of woman and the race. Out of this assumption had grown up with the marriage institution a system of legalized prostitution, which gave man unbounded license to sensual indulgence, degrading to the level of mere animal life, while it robbed woman of beauty, health and vigor, turned the sweetness and loveliness of her nature to the bitterness of discontent, and changed all her love to loathing. Let her be rescued from this profanation; give her supreme control of her most sacred functions, and would the world longer be peopled with such swarms of

half-mad wretches, the offspring of bitterness and hate, as now ooze out from the pestilential dens of our thronged cities to be thrust into the charnel-house or throttled on the gallows?

A young Cuban made himself ridiculously conspicuous by his ill-timed enthusiasm, and some miscellaneous business was transacted.

Mrs. Rose presented the Business Committee's Report, and it was read by Mrs. Paulina Wright Davis as follows:

Resolved, That the close of a Presidential election affords a peculiarly appropriate occasion to renew the demands of woman or a consistent application of Democratic principles.

Resolved, That the Republican party, appealing constantly through its orators to female sympathies, and using for its most popular rallying cries a female name, is peculiarly pledged by consistency to do justice to woman hereafter in States where it holds control.

Resolved, That the Democratic party, also, must be utterly false to its name and its professed principles, or else must extend their application to both halves of the human race.

Resolved, That the present uncertain and inconsistent position of Woman in our community—not fully recognized either as a slave or as an equal—taxed, but not represented, authorized to earn our property, but not free to control it—allowed to obtain education, but not encouraged to use it—permitted to prepare papers for scientific bodies but not to read them—urged to form political opinions, but not allowed to vote upon them—all mark a transitional period in human history which cannot long endure.

Resolved, That the main power of the Woman's Rights movement lies in this: that while always demanding for Woman better education, better employment and better laws, it has always kept steadily in view the one cardinal demand—for the **RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE**—as being, in a Democracy, the symbol and the guaranty of all other rights.

Resolved, That the monopoly of the Elective Franchise, and thereby all the powers of legislative government by man, solely on the ground of sex, is a usurpation, condemned alike by reason and common sense; subversive of all the principles of justice; oppressive and demoralizing in its operations, and insulting to the dignity of human nature.

Resolved, That while the constant progress of laws, education and industry prove that our efforts for woman in these respects are not wasted, we yet proclaim ourselves unsatisfied, and are only encouraged to renewed efforts until the whole be gained.

After a few remarks from Mrs. Lucretia Mott on the importance of brief speeches, the President announced that a letter had been received from Mr. Francis Jackson of Boston enclosing \$50; and the Rev. T. W. Higginson read a letter from the Rev. Samuel Johnson.

Miss Susan B. Anthony spoke on the necessity of the dissemination of printed matter on this subject. She named *The Lily*, *The Woman's Advocate*, and said they had some documents for sale at the platform.

Sen. De Belancourt Agramante made another little speech about Americans.

A gentleman offered a lot of resolutions, and although the President stated that they would go to the Business Committee, proceeded to read them. They provided for the preparation and publication of a full report of the proceedings of the Convention, and also for offering premiums for essays on various subjects, one of which was whether if the state of society were such that girls of fifteen could, by some light mechanical labor, be rendered peculiarly independent, it would be favorable to general morality.

Senor De Belancourt Agramante said that he would like to apologize to the Convention.

Mrs. Ernestine L. Rose made some remarks on Mr. Johnson's letter, that it was not true that the mother was deprived of her own children. She had been all over the Northern States, and she had never been in a county where some man was not claiming his child, and trying to tear it from its mother, not that he cared a copper for it, but to tantalize its mother.

The President said that a slip had been sent up

to the platform, on which was written that woman had control of their property. This was not true. She knew of many a mean man who, taking advantage of a mean law, married a young girl for her property, and paid his debts with it. There was great work to do. An alarming amount of ignorance was to be overcome. Only the other day she heard a woman say, "O! yes, this Woman's Rights will be a fine thing; then I can go down to Stewart's and run up a big bill, and my husband will pay for it." Woman's Rights was not running up big bills at Stewart's. The Printer's Union at Boston disconcerted the employment of female compositors; That was unworthy of them. If this Convention should awaken in one woman an earnest purpose to be a noble woman and to be herself, if it should make one man reverence his mother more, it would not have been in vain.

The Convention then adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention reassembled at 7½ o'clock; about five hundred people were present.

Mrs. Elizabeth Jones spoke for an hour and a quarter on the wants of woman, what had been done for her, and what remained for her to do for herself. Her ideal of a woman was one who could not only make bread and darn stockings, but also be the equal of her companion in judgment and scholastic attainments, and in her ability to earn an independent living.

Mr. Wendell Phillips was then introduced. He said that he had been told that *The Times* of today threatened the women that if they went on they would forfeit the protection of the men.—Perhaps it might not be needed. Nine-tenths of all the men could not defend their right to vote so well as the woman who had just sat down.—

The situation of woman was a complete index of civilization; Utah was barbarism. The Saxon race had led the van in the elevation of woman. The first line of Saxon history was written by Tacitus when he chronicled that "on all great questions they consult their women." Europe had known three phases: the dominion of bullies—of brute force; the dominion of wealth, which we now see; and the dominion of brain which was to come. In this new reign a career would be opened. We lived in a government where *The N. Y. Herald* and *The N. Y. Tribune*, thank God, were more really the governing power than Franklin Pierce. Woman's right to vote he regarded as the nucleus of all her rights; he considered it to be founded on the great American principle that the tax list and the ballot-box always went together. If it were based upon intellectual capacity, why, Mrs. Somerville or Harriet Martineau could spare brains enough to set up all the editors who had ever ridiculed the movement, and not miss it [Laughter and applause]. The two great objects of society were the production of wealth and thought. Woman had more of the elements of thrift than man; she saves more than half of the wealth that was saved. And who would say that woman was not the equal of man in giving impulse to public opinion. The most advanced ideas of France, the social teacher in Europe had been first discussed in the saloons of woman. Woman could not now be educated, because she had no motive for opening books. She could secure through them only the name of Blue-stocking—but the Statute books of the States had begun to change all that. In Kentucky women were allowed to vote. In the election of trustees for the school fund, every widow in this State who had a child between six and eighteen was allowed to vote in person or by proxy, as she chose. His principle was, that if women were not to be allowed to vote, they shall not be taxed. If this were not done, he would have Bancroft and Hildreth sealed books, and allow Mr. Gilmore Simms to have his own way with the history of all the States.

He thought that the little editors and lecturers who wore coats and therefore presumed to say that Mrs. Somerville and Charlotte Bronte stepped out of their sphere, exhibited at least courage.

On Wednesday, in the morning, the resolutions were discussed; Mrs. Ernestine L. Rose, Mr. Moore and Mr. T. W. Higginson taking part in the discussion. Resolutions of sympathy with

Woman's Rights men and women were passed. A young Virginian inquired whether the claim for Woman's Rights was founded in nature or revelation, and made a speech on woman's sphere. He was promptly demolished by Mr. Higginson and the President.

In the afternoon, Mr. Henry Blackwell, Lucy Stone's husband, spoke of the disabilities of women in New York. The husband could rob his wife of her earnings and her children. When the wife died, the husband inherited all her property; the widow inherited but a third of her husband's estate. And if government rested on the consent of the governed, then there could be no objection made to the exercise of the right of suffrage by women. A woman told how, in a country district school, she took her first lesson in Woman's Rights, when, after an examination, the Trustee encouraged the boys by telling them that excellence would open to them the avenues of wealth and fame, and not saying the same to the girls. Dr. Wellington made some remarks, the President read a letter from Mrs. Antoinette Brown Blackwell, suggesting a Committee to prepare memorials to the Legislatures of the various States. Mr. Wendell Phillips and Mrs. Lucretia Mott spoke briefly, and the following letter was read:

MR. GREELEY'S LETTER.

NEW YORK, Nov. 22, 1856.

MY FRIEND:—You are promised to be present and speak at the approaching "Woman's Rights Convention." I, too, mean to attend its deliberations, or some portion thereof, but not to take part in them. For I find this evil apparently inseparable from all Radical gatherings: a very large and influential portion of the Press, including, I grieve to say, religious as well as secular journals, are prone and eager to expose to odium those whom they would undermine and destroy, by attributing to them, not the sentiments they have personally expressed, but those of others with whom they are or have been associated in some reformatory movement. He, then, who appears as a speaker at a Woman's Right's Convention, is made responsible for whatever may be uttered at such Convention—no matter by whom—which is most likely to excite popular hostility. I have borne a good share of this unfairly excited and unjust odium, with regard to the Dietetic, Anti-Slavery and Social Reforms suggested in our day, and shall bear on as patiently as I may; but I grow older, and do not confront the world on a fresh issue with so light a heart, so careless a defiance, as I might have done twenty years ago. Allow me, then, through you, to say what I think of the Woman's Rights movement, its objects, incitements, and limitations. If I may thus attain perspicuity, I can bear the imputation of egotism.

I. I deem the intellectual, like the physical, capacities of Women unequal in the average to those of Men; but I perceive no reason in this natural diversity for a factitious and superinduced legal inequality. On the contrary, it seems to me that the fact of a natural and marked discrepancy in the average mental as well as muscular powers of Men and Women ought to allay any apprehensions that the latter, in the absence of legal interdicts and circumscriptions, would usurp the functions and privileges of the former.

II. I believe the range of employment for Women in our age and country far too restricted, and the average recompense of her labor consequently far less than it should be. In saying this, I do not intimate a doubt that the best possible employment for most women is to be found in the care and management of their own households respectively, with the rearing and training of their children. But many women, including some of the most noble and estimable, are never called to preside over households; while some of the called are impelled to decline the invitation. In point of fact, then, there is and always will be a large proportion of the gentler sex who are, at least temporarily, required to earn their own subsistence and vindicate their own usefulness in some other capacity than that of the loved and honored wife and mother. The maiden or widow blessed with opulence ought to be insured against the worse calamities of a reverse of fortune by the mastery of some handicraft or industrial voca-

tion; she ought to lead a life of persistent and efficient industry as the fulfilment of a universal duty; while her unportioned sister *must* do this or grovel in degrading idleness and dependence on a father's or brother's over-taxed energies, looking to marriage as her only chance of escape therefrom. For Man's sake, no less than Woman's, it is eminently desirable that that large portion of our women who are not absorbed in domestic cares should be attracted and stimulated to industry by a wider range of pursuits, and a consequent increase of recompense. I deem it at once unjust and—like all injustice—impolitic, that a brother and sister hired by the same farmer, the one to aid him in his own round of labor, the other to assist his wife in hers, should be paid, the one twelve to twenty, the other but four to six dollars per month. The difference in their wages should be no greater than that in their physical and mental ability. Still more glaring is this discrepancy when the two are employed as teachers, and, though of equal efficiency, the one is paid five hundred dollars per annum, the other but two, or in that proportion, merely because the former is a man and the latter a woman. While such disparities exist, right here in this metropolis of American civilization and Christianity, it is in vain that Conservatism stops its ears and raises its eyebrows at the announcement of a Women's Rights Convention.

III. Regarding Marriage as the most important, most sacred and tender of human relations, and deeming it irrevocable save by death, it seems to me essential that Woman should be proffered such a range of employments, with such adequate recompense, as to enable her at all times to support herself in honored and virtuous independence, so that Marriage shall be accepted by her at the dictates of Love and not of Hunger. Much might be urged on this point, but I choose simply to commend it to the reflection and recollections of others.

IV. As to Woman's voting or holding office, I defer implicitly to herself. If the women of this or any other country believe their rights would be better secured and their happiness promoted by the assumption on their part of the political franchise and responsibilities of men, I, a Republican in principle from conviction, shall certainly interpose no objection. I perceive what seem to be serious practical difficulties in the way of realizing such assumption; but these are difficulties not for me but for them. I deem it unjust that men should be so constantly and unqualifiedly impeached as denying Rights to Woman which the great majority of women seem quite as reluctant to claim as men are to concede. I apprehend that whenever women shall generally and earnestly desire an equality of political franchise with men, they will meet with little impediment from the latter.

V. I cannot share at all in the apprehensions of those who are alarmed at the Woman's Rights agitation lest it should result in the unsexing of Woman, or her general deflection from her proper sphere. On the contrary, I feel sure that the freest inquiry and discussion will only result in a clearer and truer appreciation of Woman's proper position, and a more general and rigid adherence thereto. "Let there be light"—for this is an indispensable condition of all true and healthy growth. Let all convictions find free utterance—all grievances be stated and considered. In the range of my observation, I have found those women who were conscious of defects in the present legal and social position of their sex among the most zealous, faithful and efficient in the discharge of their household and parental duties. I feel confident that a general discussion of the subject of Woman's Rights will result in a more general recognition and cheerful performance of Woman's appropriate duties.

Very truly yours,

HORACE GREELEY.

Rev. SAMUEL J. MAY.

The Resolutions were adopted:

In the evening Mr. F. W. Higginson spoke of men's lack of reverence for the ladies they flattered. During the latter portion of his remarks a corps of rowdies in the gallerie, who wanted to hear a woman, made a great deal of noise.

Mrs. Ernestine L. Rose then spoke on the claims of woman, educational, industrial, legal and political. She founded her remarks on the Declaration of Independence, the necessity of noble mothers for noble men, and spoke of the difference in wages paid to men and women for the same work. Mrs. Lucretia Mott spoke of the origin of the movement in England, the time and place of holding the next Convention was referred to the Central Committee, and after a few remarks from the President the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

The Capital and Labor of Women.

"Every one cries out 'If I had but money!' Those who are in authority-power suck the very marrow from the bones of men of low degree."—JAMES BEMAN.

Many are the modes by which power is employed to grind the faces of the poor. In our time and country capital is the great oppressor, and its grasp is felt most sensibly by the working women, who often are not only dragged down by toil, but to this is superadded the sad blighting of the heart from disappointed affections, and the perpetual anxiety and discontent of the mother, who sees her children neglected and squalid, for which all her efforts are unable to present a remedy. She is driven here and there to procure work, when all her strength is exhausted; but the family is kept poor by insufficient remuneration.

The woman who could obtain a small capital to open a shop, soon finds her condition bettered; but the needle-woman works hard, and is, at the end of the year, as poor as at the beginning of it. The dress-maker or milliner who have some little start, by way of capital or influence, are able to employ apprentices, and thus get in advance of their daily wants; but the girls thus employed as apprentices have small pay and much hard work. They must expect this till their trade is learned. Girls must be taught to feel that work must be hard in the beginning, and to many will always be hard, for enterprise and capacity are not equally distributed. As soon as women become employers, they find their profits much increased. It is by keeping business in their own hands only that they will find themselves paid for the work they do.

In Europe, women fill any and every avenue to wealth, honors and utility. They are artisans, farmers, artists, authors, professors, manufacturers and merchants, while in our country almost all occupations of the kind are filled by men; and women so employed are always subordinate, so that the portion which falls into their hands is very small.

This is a bad state of things, and one which women can redeem if they once set themselves resolutely to the task. They must employ, rather than be employed. They must procure capital, and make it work for them, as the other sex have made it work. Instead of being content with a few shillings beyond their daily wants, they should aim at accumulation as a passport to influence, usefulness and benevolence. They can do more, and do better, in the world, with money than without it. Madame Bonaparte is not ashamed to deal in stocks at Baltimore; Mrs. Lorillard, of New York, became a partner in the firm of which her husband had been principal; and a thousand similar cases might be cited, to show that women of ordinary courage and capacity may go on adding their thousands to an already large fortune.

Do not be humbugged into the cant that money is an evil, and to accumulate it is sordid and base. If your soul is a mean one, nothing can make it lower—therefore, you

will be none the worse with money than without it; if you are brave and noble, money will aid you in the exercise of magnanimity—therefore, "put money in your purse." Men and women know how to respect wealth—which has its power—when they would never learn to appreciate that which is beyond money and price—genius and goodness; and hence it is well, where the greater is beyond your reach, to procure the less.

Snobs, even, do not turn up the nose at a full purse. With money, taste and culture can procured, while he or she who is goaded by intimations of beauty, or desires of elegancies beyond their ability to procure, is always miserable. We do not say, as is so often quoted, "The way to make a man rich is not to increase his stores, but to diminish his desires," because we do not believe in any such dwarfing process. We believe that men and women should have a full, healthy growth, and that they should desire much, and be willing to work hard to get it. Women must work as well as men. The poor woman, in spite of her disinclination, is driven to toil the moment her beauty is gone. She must work, or eat the bitter bread of dependence. When this period comes upon her, she complains of the world, of neglect of friends, and the ingratitude of relations. Neglect is a hard dose to take, and ingratitude "sharper than a serpent's tooth;" but women must put themselves beyond the reach of these things by holding a certain kind of power in their own hands, which money can alone impart. Therefore, women, who complain the most in this way, should learn to "put money in their purse."

The man or the woman whose daily toil will no more than supply the wants of the body, only procure necessary food and clothing, is a slave. The worst bondage is that which keeps the body, and leaves the soul starved. Go out of this bondage. The soul is large, and generous, and brave, and demands a broad field of beauty, and enjoyment, and action; and ye who keep it cooped in your miserable bodies, defrauded of all freshness and joy, are guilty of a deadly wrong. Work then—work, for the sake of casting off this bondage, for in our day the great Evangel is *work*.—U. S. Magazine.

Dr Johnson, when in the fullness of years and knowledge, said, "I never take up a newspaper without finding something I would have deemed it a loss not to have seen; ever without deriving from it instruction and amusement."

Southey says in one of his letters:—"I have told you of the Spaniard who always put on his spectacles when about to eat cherries, that they might look bigger and tempting. In like manner I make the most of my enjoyments; and though I do not cast my cares away, I pack them in a little compass as I can for myself, and never let them annoy others."

Antipathy to reading sermons is a well known characteristic of the Scotch people. At Kirkendbright at an inauguration, an old woman on the pulpit stairs asked one of her companions if the new minister was a reader. "An' how can he read woman?" was the reply, "the puir man's blind." To which the first made answer, "I'm glad to hear that; wish they were a' blin'!"

It is wrong to wish for death, and more to have occasion to fear it.

THE LILY.

RICHMOND, IND., DECEMBER 15, 1856.

The Close of the Year.

The long shadows of 1856 are lengthening over us, and in its twilight, dear readers and patrons, we can muse together of the chances and changes of time. Another niche in Time's old hall has been filled and the gay, bright New Year will soon come to challenge our admiration and acceptance.

Spring came and went, with its fresh verdure, its inspiring life, and the exuberance of pleasure in mere existence, in health, in hope. To be was joy; life was praise.

Then came Summer with her golden grains and fruitage, with her wealth of sweets—her maturity of beauty. Gladness sat in her paths; peace mused among her beauties.

Then came Autumn, with his fruits and "sere and yellow leaf;" his hazy days; his sighing winds; and like a warning friend, pointed to the tempest Winter, whose icy ornaments are already hung upon blade and twig; whose cold, whose whirling winds and falling snows are symbolical of the winter of our life; when we must stand for ourselves; when no outward adorning, no ornament, no grace can atone for our soul's want of progress in Truth. This is typical of the season when our mortality shall be laid aside for IMMORTALITY, and the soul stand alone and for itself at the Judgment Bar. Here there is no proxy.—Here there can be no wavering, no assumption of others' responsibilities—no selling our own birth right. When the flowers of our life sink beneath the snowy shroud of winter, alone will stand in glorious relief, amid the wrecks, the mighty spirit, seeking its place in the great Futurity. Thus stands Truth, too, ever on earth, seeking her place in the hearts of man. Wherever can be found a clean spot, there rests her foot. We only need our heart's garner swept from the dust of uncleanly prejudices, made sweet from the unholy tread of envyings, bitterness, injustice and uncharitableness, and her presence will fill the airy chambers.

We have journeyed together through this year, laboring earnestly for the triumph of correct principles, believing that no human being was created to serve another, but always acknowledging our mutual dependencies; standing for an equality of independence and acting upon a reciprocity of obligation. Shall we not renewedly pledge our time and talents to this work? Where can we engage in one that will bring as much peace, as much joy, as much good. Justice must kiss every heart before a pure morality can dwell abidingly in our midst; and the lovely and all beautiful Christianity will follow closely upon its steps.

By the time the New Year waves her ensign over us, we shall have opportunity to review the past, and plan for the future.

Are we to still keep company and take counsel together, friendly reader and patron! Has our journey been pleasant? Do we stand on vantage ground, together, feeling near in sympathy for the combating that has lain in our course, for the trials and difficulties that have beset us? Labor has made our reward sweet. Sympathy has made our task delightful. Signs of progress and success greatly encourage us to redouble our efforts. Already does a stricter and more comprehensive idea of Liberty enlighten the public mind; it is permeating our literature; some of its brightest plumes have been well earned and worn by women. They are accorded to her without scruple; she wears them as her right. Woman's education and mental discipline are coming up out of the dark depths, and she is weaving an armor that will put to shame all doubts of her ability and show how the world has suffered from her disfranchised uneducated condition.

In some of the states good progress has been made towards giving her, her property her earnings and her children! At least progress so far that men begin to ask, is it right to take them from her?

Her stinted compensation for labor is receiving universal condemnation. And the feeling is more prevalent that, if woman could secure these rights without, she should possess, the one of suffrage that they may be always secure.

In reviewing the past year we cannot refrain from alluding to the elections; one of which has given us a Governor opposed to a prohibitory liquor law, and the other a President, not the one we preferred, surely; but now that these days are past with their intense excitement, we can but pray that he will be a good officer and that an intelligent people will do their utmost to guard the sacred rights of every part of the union.

The Republican party may well feel proud that the whole unbroken New England vote was given their favorite candidate; a compliment from an educated people.

And the Temperance advocates may gather up their courage, now, that Maine has repudiated her pro-whisky officers and elected long known and tried temperance men.

With the close of the year, too, we can but express our feelings of gratitude to the Good Father above, who has blessed the industrial efforts, and given us plenty and peace. His overshadowing presence and love, have warmed our hearts many times; hours we have had, when every thought was praise.—No year has teemed with so many mental outgrowths. Thoughts have become valuables to us. We may yet learn to prize them according to their true value, and estimate rightly the influence of the thinkers over the affairs of nations.

With the year 1856, friendly readers and patrons, we bid you adieu, until invited again to visit your homes in the New Year 1857. Good bye.

To Correspondents.

Mahala Gordon—Please accept our thanks.

M. A. W. Wallace of California—we are particularly obliged for that noble list from the "golden land." We forward a copy of "Dred," which please accept as a token of our appreciation of your remembrance and efforts.

To our new subscribers an explanation is due. We think sending back numbers is rather a bad plan; so have no more papers struck than we need, therefore, we send from the next issue after the order reaches us. By this, tho', subscribers have frequently to wait over two weeks before their papers commence; but they will lose nothing by this, as we always aim at improvement.

All subscribers whose year expires with the volume have due them, still, four numbers of the new volume to make up for the missing numbers during the year. We have made up in this way to those whose time have expired before this.—We prefer giving extra credit to printing papers now to fill the deficiency, as it was by this means that last year we fell so far behind hand in regard to time. But in 1857, with your generous aid friendly patrons, we expect to start with fair sail, keep before the wind with gallant speed, and close the journey with the year, in neatest, fairest trim.

The Ladies' Tribune.

Mrs. Underhill, who has assumed the proprietorship of the paper formerly called The Ladies' Temperance Wreath now a weekly serial under the noble cognomen of The Ladies' Tribune; has just paid us a short visit and given us an excellent Temperance lecture. Mrs. U. is travelling to collect subscriptions for her Tribune, in order to place it upon a firm foundation. We bespeak for her co-operation from those who wish to encourage woman's enterprise, and those who love Temperance. We understand it is not to be entirely devoted to Temperance, but will contain a variety of chaste matter for the family reading.

Mrs. Underhill is really heroic in her efforts, and we hope she will find that women, as well as men, appreciate these, at least, to such an extent as will enable her to be entirely successful in her enterprise.

Wherever one woman strikes a blow for the elevation of her sex, it redounds to the interest of the whole; and wherever one fails in her purposed plans all feel the calamity and contend against increased odds in maintaining their individual enterprise. We are bound together.

Terms, one dollar and fifty cents per single copy; ten copies for ten dollars. Address Mrs. Underhill, Indianapolis, Ind.

No woman, and especially no wife, should ever be controlled by force, whether directly or indirectly applied. We are imbued with the opinion that, when family contentions arise, goodness is the most powerful means for harmonizing them, and bringing all parties to reason. Let a man exhibit proper dignity, self-control, and goodness, and there are but few women who would be apt long to trouble him with unreasonable obstinacy and vexatious contentions.—Exchange.

There is truth and real poetry in the above. We never could see any necessity, any thing pleasant, equitable or appropriate in man being head, and woman the foot of the family. If the father and mother have not that oneness of feeling and purpose, and that perfect un-

derstanding of true equality, the interests of that family must suffer. We have just as much faith that peace and heavenly happiness would arise from the family cherishing and acknowledging equality, as we have that the breezes and dew, the rain and sunshine will bring first the buds and then the flowers and fruit. The world seems somehow to have always seen the necessity of settling *quarrels*, and to have gone upon the belief that woman had no reason. And in many of the discussions upon Woman's Rights, the ladies have almost invariably to gulp down as gracefully as possible many bitter pills (of the hard old school practice) about "woman's inability in her 'weakness'" and &c. Ever in her sphere of house keeping she is not secure from these offensive remarks, nor never was. Notwithstanding a fair assortment of newspaper laudations, of her ministrations she yet is subject to the overcharge of egotistical importance and, as every one, who has placed in his hands irresponsible power, grows careless of justice or mercy she has many a scene to endure that rankles as a poison until by prayers for endurance the aid of the golden promises and prospects for futurity, the wounds are healed again and again and the chastened spirit marks upon the tablets of the countenance, ineffacable evidence that the spirit has striven to "suffer and grow strong."

In our own genuine sentiment, we place a large share of natural good sense and generosity both to man's and woman's credit; making them equal, as we believe, inheritors of the christian feelings as of its promises.

The New York Convention.

We have been gathering from our different New York exchanges the most important transactions of the National Convention. These assemblies have many influences upon the public mind. Calm and august they evince a settled determination of purpose that must of itself be effective; and the principles advanced can neither be controverted nor silenced. We cannot forbear quoting from the private letter of one of our most cherished New York correspondents, the following minutia; and she will excuse this liberty, when she knows with what avidity every little transaction is read by those with whom it is impossible to be in attendance at these meetings.

MY DEAR MRS. BIRDSALL—We have just enjoyed a refreshing season here—a feast of good things. The Woman's Rights Convention has just closed and it has been a most signal success. Knowing New York to be the very hot-bed of conservatism, and remembering the ungracious reception given our friends some three years since, I had feared for the result, but nothing could have more clearly proved the growth of public sentiment than the difference between these conventions. Then all was noise and disorder, now, peace was the prevailing element. With the exception of a few amusing episodes in one of which a young theological student heroically offered himself as a victim to the keen, dissecting knife of Lucy Stone, and was most artistically carved up thereby, every thing passed off in the most harmonious manner. The speeches were able, the speak-

ers earnest and hopeful, and the audience, seemingly well pleased. I hope that an impression has been made that will not soon be effaced. I know of many, personally, who say, "if this is Woman's Rights, I endorse the movement." T. W. Higginson and Wendell Phillips the noble apostles of Freedom, were with us and spoke earnestly for the cause. I fancy that in the future, the free women will regard these and the other generous men, vindicators of the Golden Rule, with a feeling kindred to that which the men of the present age entertain for the brave Frenchmen and Poles, who, forgetful of self, aided their sires in their resistance to British tyranny.

One of our western sisters, Elizabeth Jones of Ohio, made a most eloquent speech, in itself a vindication of the intellect of Woman. Many others were present, bodily or by letter. Lucretia Mott, the mother of American women; Mrs. Rose, the very soul of logic, Lucy Stone, our own Lucy, and her noble husband, and Miss Anthony, the motive power of the machinery; and our earnest Antoinette, spoke through a letter, suggesting a method of urging the subject on our Legislatures during the coming winter.

The Lily was not forgotten, but efforts, I hope successful ones, were made to increase its circulation. May it bloom in the garden of every householder, and breathe its fragrance over every household!

Mrs. Hasbrouck in her Sibyl, has the following mention of Elizabeth Jones.

"She gave the best and most philosophic address we ever listened to. We would it were published entire, or that we had it for extracts; but the meagre reports given of it are scarce worth the copying."

Also the following of Lucretia Mott and Lucy Stone,

Toward the close Mrs. Mott was assigned the floor, when she spoke of the early steps taken by women in the Anti-Slavery movement, and said that when Maria Edgeworth published her first works she did not think it decorous to put her name on the title page. She then spoke of the Apostolic Arguments and of the general aspect of the cause. There was a marriage relation, she said, in which the independence of the husband and wife would be equal, the dependence mutual, and their obligations reciprocal. She presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That as the poor slave's alleged contentment with his servile and cruel bondage only proves the depth of his degradation, so the assertion to woman that she has all the rights she wants only proves how far the restraints and disabilities to which she has been subjected have rendered her insensible to the blessing of true liberty.

The resolution was adopted. The time and place of the next Convention was then referred to the Central Committee.

The President then said a few words. She would like for one six months to give the men the occupation of the fashionable women; she would like for them to have to dress nine times a day and crochet dogs and cats, and wear long dresses, and then to tell them that they had nothing to do with public affairs, and see then if they would be patient under it. Horace Greeley, in the letter which had been read to them, had said that he did not think woman's intellect equal to man's. He had struggled his way to greatness. He spoke and the great listened. Suppose he had been

told by his mother, here is your brother beside you, you can have no place in the great school of life; you may pay taxes but he shall make the laws. And if such a mountain of lead as that had weighed on his heart all the while he was struggling to be somebody, did they think that he would ever have become what he was now? She was glad that he not bad trial.

When history came to tell that in the year 1856, in New York, a woman could not own her own earnings, or her own baby, and a Kansas Free-State man could not hold his own property, then people would say that law-makers in New York and Border-Ruffians in Kansas were very much alike.

The Sibyl, contains the following invitation, to all friends of Dress Reform:

DRESS REFORM CONVENTION.—You are earnestly and respectfully invited to attend a convention, to be held at CANASTOTA, Madison County, N. Y., on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY SEVENTH, 1857, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, to discuss the question of

"REFORM IN DRESS FOR WOMAN," and to devise measures to bring the necessity of such reform before the minds of American women. Invitations have been tendered to distinguished gentlemen, who are favorable to the movement, to be present, of whom are GERRIT SMITH, SAMUEL J. MAY, Doctor BOLLES, Doctor JARVIS, Doctor McCALL, and others. Let the friends of the enterprise rally. Respectfully,

J. C. JACKSON.

For The Lily.

ORION, ILL., Nov. 15, 1856.

DEAR LILY:—Though it is not in my power to add much to your material of spiritual growth, yet, somehow or other, my pen evinces an *inkling* to be doing something for you, however trifling it may seem. Therefore, along with the names and money, I send you a few lines; though written some time since, they will be new to your readers, and may probably induce some one to tell us why it is that, with all the beautiful scenes and sweet sounds with which our fair world is fraught, that there is not more harmony and happy rejoicing amongst the sons and daughters of men.

Music—Nature a Harp.

TO * * *

If thou lovest music, listen! for it is everywhere around thee. Nature is one great Harp, and her attributes the living chords; and if thou wouldst become as a vibrating chord in the sweet instrument, listen! thy heart will thrill at the prevailing melody, and thy soul shall be attuned, and its song shall be, "Glory to God for ever, for this thy good, thy glorious work; in all I view, thy face I see, in every sound thy praise I hear."

Listen, and thou wilt hear the little birds sing their Maker's praise, and the glad song of their existence; thou wilt hear the song of adoration in every tree, and flower, and blade of waving grass. Each has a language of its own, and each, in the fullness of its power, is aiding in the song. And the little stream that gurgles on its way, like the prattle of a babe that scarcely knows its own meaning, its song is singing too; and let us follow it to the broad river, where the notes of a thousand streams are joined—are not our senses rapt and trancelike, as we listen to the chorus, "He liveth forever, ever, forever."* And still further may we follow, even to the broad and mighty ocean, for their music is not done. Here may we tread the strand by day and midnight hour, when moonlight hangs upon its waters calm, and yet a song we hear! The calm, the quiet sea—the "trackless waste," holding dominion o'er her treasured stores—wealth, youth and beauty, all are cradled here; like a good nurse, she rocks them long and well. Bright eyes, and hearts that full of hopes beat high, she lulls in

* I have heard the waves on the bosom of the great "Father of Waters" sing this, as they journeyed on to their ocean home—"He liveth forever, ever, forever."

quiet slumber—their last, long sleep! How emblematic of that land where sorrow weeps no more! How soothingly she sings, like angel voices near, that tell of warfare o'er, that speak of peace and rest. Is this not music to the heaven-bound soul? We'll stay our steps, and hearken yet awhile, for the sea hath other songs. The broad-winged wind comes flapp'ng on her breast; she wakes, she rises up to combat; like arms of warriors raised on high, her waves are towering upward, onward, outward, down. Fearful, yet beautiful her music now! The war-peal and the dirge-note join; she booms—her waves run wild, and frantic—billows on billows lash the trembling shore! My senses reel, as surging up the deafening music comes. Has it no charm for thee?—can't thou listen, and say it is not song?

Now turn we, and behold yon darkening sky—see those electric streaks—the shivering lightning, and the thunder-tones are muffling through the air. Be still! I here a voice—to me the voice of God—"Let all the nations of the earth keep silence, and know—"

Again, hearest thou the wind, as it plays and whispers among the branches of the forest? Is there not music here?—has this sweet song never lulled thee to magnetic slumber?—has it never carried thee from the real to the higher realities, where all is light with life, and love, and song—the song that never ends? But, like the ocean, it hath many tones. The wintry, midnight wind comes whistling, sweeping round our dwelling now; it tells a mournful tale at times; oft, in its wailings may we hear the low, sad moanings of humanity, till the cold ice around our hearts gives way to sympathetic sadness. Sweet music, this! to know "Earth has a heart," to thrill at sorrow's touch!

Wildly the wind plays on. Is there no chord within that heart of thine, to vibrate to its notes? Can't thou listen to this "music of the spheres," and say, it is not song? Can't thou listen, and retain a consciousness of the present? I cannot. My inmost soul is stirred—my spirit-eye beholds the things unseen. Loved ones, long gone from earth, voices of other days, seem near me now, musical, yet mournful and melancholy. The scenes where childhood's sports are rendered dear again; the loved companions of my earlier years, their joyous smiles, their lustrous eyes, though closed in sleep forever, are shadowing now before me; the music of the Harp has brought them here—and, oh! its tones are fraught with power unknown to those alone whose souls no music know. To such, this Harp is dead. Oh, would that all could hear, for it tells us of that life to come, where we, aright attuned (for now, at best, an inharmonious choir), may join in one bright band, with heaven-strung powers, to sing our happy song in praise of Him whose hand this harp is tuning.

And, dear Lily, what of that mysterious machine, the human heart—a harp itself—that "harp of many strings?" An abler pen than mine must tell why a touch upon its chords doth ever send back a joyous or a sorrowing tone. A little word, a look, will tune its notes to gladness; again, a look, a random word, will turn its notes to sadness. The right touch, and the wrong. Art thou in harmony with thyself, O, harp of many strings? Who hath trod thy labyrinth? who hath told thy story? What joyous touch can make thee sound to joy, when thou art tuned to sadness? Indeed, thou art a mystery, thou Harp of many strings. E. K. B.

Mrs. J. H. Nichols.

Many of our correspondents have inquired for this lady, whose skillful pen so long served the Woman's Rights cause as few can; and, finding the following letter from her in one of our exchanges, we were sure they would be pleased to see a word from her, and hear of her thoughts and works.

TO THE WOMEN OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

SISTERS:—Your hearts have been stirred by the tales of Kansas outraged, wronged; the constitutional rights of her people struck down; the "enjoyment of life, liberty and the pursuit of hap-

piness" made treasonable; and all the God-given means of subsistence and general prosperity perverted from the dwellers in that beautiful land, by the iron heart and strong hand of *tyrant power!*

Government heeds not, hears not the cry of the afflicted. Good men *may* struggle in vain to rescue the victims by the speedy election of righteous rulers, and the wealth, locked in the treasures of free States and rich men's coffers, may be too tardy or insufficient to save the suffering, starving inhabitants of Kansas from death upon her soil, or the necessity of returning to the free States to be fed. Supported they must be, either in Kansas or out of it; for they have expended, or been robbed of, their all in the struggle for free homes. The question, in a pecuniary point of view, then, is, *where shall they be fed?* Humanity, struggling for freedom to be in the image of its Maker, cries, *in Kansas*, where to hold free homes is to insure the cause of freedom, and stay the waves of oppression.

Are you mothers? Let me speak to you for the mothers of Kansas. I am one of them. My sons are among the sufferers and the defenders of that ill-fated Territory; their blood has baptized the soil which they yet live to weep over, to love and to defend. I ask of you, mothers of New York, but a tithe of the sacrifices and devotion of the mothers of Kansas. Their "jewels," more precious than silver or gold, or houses and lands, are already laid a sacrifice upon the altar. Can you withhold from them the bread which shall bring to you the blessing of those ready to perish?

Look upon your sons, secure in the support of all that is enabling—look upon your fair daughters, safe from the outrages of a degraded and ruffian soldiery—look upon your infants, smiling in the sweet security and sunshine of homes running over with comfort, and happiness, and plenty and from your stores give to those who have none of all these but the mother-love, which, in the absence of every means to succor and save, is crushing the over-taxed heart into the blackness of despair!

Are you wives? Brave, loving men have tracked the paths and prairies to bring bread, and never returned; have turned to the fields of their labor, and with the last fond kiss yet warm upon their lips, been felled by the stately foe. Brave, loving men are now tracking the prairies with unshod feet and bleeding hearts. Brave, loving women weep and pray, and toil to wipe away their tears, and smile a welcome to the husbands that come sad and empty-handed back! Wives of New York, will you fill the empty hands, and win the speechless gratitude of these suffering ones?

Are you sisters? Fond, noble brothers appeal to dear sisters in the East for help in their need. Your sympathy cannot comfort them, even, in their distress. The appeal of such a one lies before me now. "Nothing to eat; no money; nothing but *'sympathy!'*" Oh, don't ever mention the word again, if you love me. Don't ever tell me again, 'Your Eastern friends sympathize with you in your noble struggle for liberty.' Such friends, if one were hanging to a rope for dear life, would look over from the ship's side, and cry, 'My *sympathies* are with you—hang on till you drown!' Sisters of New York, will you send out the life-boat to save these sinking, struggling victims of foul oppression?

Words are too poor to give expression to my deep sense of the peril, the suffering, the need, which is weighing upon the hearts, and shutting out sunshine and health from the homes of the people of Kansas.

I leave my appeal with you, women of New York, confident in a generous response and an earnest co-operation.

To many of you I may speak as personal friends and former co-workers in the cause of humanity. I know your zeal. I know your labors. I count upon your utmost efforts in this the crisis hour of the accumulated oppression of the past—in this the gray dawn of a resurrection day for humanity, such as the world has never seen—which the past has promised without comprehending, and groped after without the strong faith that alone can win it. C. L. H. NICHOLS.

Mend the Breeches.

"Oh, dear, save me!" said poor Mrs. Brown, setting herself into a flag-bottomed rocking-chair, with a terribly woe-begone, given-over expression of countenance; "if that child has not gone and torn a hole in the leg of them span new breeches I made for him last week! Well, there's no use tryin'. The more you do, the more you may, and no thanks for it either. I don't b'lieve, since the world stood, any mother ever had such a set of careless, hollerin', yellin', stampin', tearin', destroyin' boys, as I've got. From this time, m'rad, I am resolved to let things take their own course, and go to pell-mell as fast as they can get there!" and having thus sagely and emphatically spoken, Mrs. Brown pinned her cap-strings with such an air of doleful martyrdom, you would have felt that she was the victim of all kinds of social and domestic conspiracies and outrages.

"No, you won't do any such thing," whispered good Common Sense, in the ear of that most disconsolate lady. "You'll just go and pick up those breeches of Tom's, and darn the rent so nicely nobody'll ever suspect there was one there, and they'll last him all summer. You'll do it right off, too, before it's time to shell the peas for dinner, instead of sitting there, moping and grumbling all the morning, when you're not a bit worse off than your neighbors; and if your boys are rude and harum-scarum, and make you a world of trouble, they're kind-hearted fellows, and you ought to thank God they do as well as they do."

"I s'pose I had. Sometimes I think I am a little grumblin' and fault-findin' naturally," soliloquized Mrs. Brown, as she stirred herself for the shears and the sewing silk.

Half an hour later, she was humming a tune to the quick motion of her needle, and you would have had to look a long way before you would have found a happier faced wife and mother than the little woman who sat sewing by the kitchen window, where the wings of the honey-bees flashed in and out among the briar-roses.

Look, here, reader. Have you the vapors, or the blues, or the disconsolables in general? Just hear what Common Sense says, and "mend the Breeches." V. F. T.

Ladies' Enterprise.

True and Beautiful.

I cannot believe that the earth is man's abiding place. It cannot be that our life is cast up by the ocean of eternity to float upon its waves and sink into nothingness! Else why is it that the aspirations which leap like angels from the temple of our hearts are forever wandering about unsatisfied? Why is it that the rainbow and the cloud come over us with a beauty that is not of us, then pass off and leave us to muse on their faded loveliness? Why is it that the stars, who hold their starry festival around the midnight throne, and set above the grasp of our limited faculties, are forever mocking us with their unapproachable glory? And finally, why is it that bright forms of human beauty are presented to our view, and then taken from us, leaving the thousand streams of our affection to flow back in Alpine torrents upon our hearts? We were born for a higher destiny than that of earth. There is a real, where the rainbow never fades; where the stars will be out on us, like islets that slumber on the ocean; and where the beings that pass before us like shadows will stay in our presence forever!

"Live well, that thou mayst die so too, To live and die is all we have to do."

Proceedings of the Woman's Rights Convention.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Rights' Association, convened at Winchester, Ind., on Thursday, Oct. 16, '56, at 2 o'clock P. M.

The President, A. M. Way, called the meeting to order. The Secretary being absent, the President requested the Vice-President to read that portion of the minutes of the last Annual Convention which related to this.

The roll of officers being called, all were found absent except the President and one Vice-President. On motion of Emma B. Swank, that there be a committee of three appointed to nominate officers to fill the vacancies, the President appointed Hannah Hiatt, Elijah Wright and E. B. Swank.

In the absence of the committee, the President stated the object of the Convention, and set forth the claims of the movement, by rendering a series of resolutions prepared for that purpose. She invited all persons present, whether male or female, to participate in the discussions and deliberations of the meeting.

The committee reported the names of the following persons, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the non-attendance of officers:

Vice-Presidents, Emily Neff, Hannah Hiatt, Atlantic O. Gray, Stuart Taylor; Secretary, Silas Colgrove; Ass't Sec'y, Jane Morrow; Treasurer, L. Matilda Scott.

On motion of T. A. Way, the report was adopted and the committee discharged, and the officers took their respective stations and entered upon duty.

E. B. Swank moved the appointment of a business committee, to consist of five persons whose duty it shall be to prepare resolutions, and bring business before the Convention.

The President appointed Emily Neff, Salem Green, Hannah Hiatt, Phebe Swaine, Elizabeth Wright.

Emily Neff suggested Sarah J. Robinson's name be added, which was done.

Emi B. Swank then made a short but very interesting address, defining the position of those who are laboring for women's elevation. Mrs. Sarah Underhill, of Indianapolis, (editor of the Ladies Tribune,) was introduced to the audience, and spoke in a very thrilling and feeling manner, upon the effects that woman's disabilities have upon society. The President then read a very interesting and encouraging letter from Mrs. Severance, of Boston, Mass. On motion, adjourned till 7 o'clock, this evening.

EVENING SESSION.

At the appointed hour the President called the house to order. The minutes of the previous Session were read and approved. The President repeated the invitation to all present, to speak their thoughts freely on the subject either in favor or in opposition to the movement.

The Chairman of the business committee, Mrs. Sarah J. Robinson, reported the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, In the progress of intellectual improvement, it has become evident that the unequal distribution of Rights and Privileges, to the sexes, is the fruitful source of the largest share of unhappiness known to the human family. Therefore,

Resolved, That never, since the creation of man, has there been a time that demanded a more careful and impartial investigation of these privileges, and their attendant responsibilities than the present.

Resolved, That man cannot discharge the duties and responsibilities of woman, nor wo-

man man's; but that each must occupy their own place, in public as in private stations.

Resolved, That if women are a portion of body politic, and must in proportion to her possessions help to pay for the enactment of laws, and that she must be subject to those laws, she has an equal right with man to participate in establishing the same.

Resolved, That in proportion to expectant obligations and responsibilities, is the stimulus to mental culture and moral excellence.

Resolved, That we deny the right of any portion of the species to decide for another portion, or of any individual to decide for another, what is or is not their proper sphere; that the proper sphere of all human beings is largest and the highest to which they are able to attain. What this is cannot be ascertained without complete liberty of choice. Woman, therefore, ought to choose for herself what sphere she will fill, what education she will seek, and what employment she will follow; and not be held bound to accept in submission the rights, the education and the sphere which man may think to accord to her.

Resolved, That we see no weight in the argument that, it is necessary to exclude women from civil life, because domestic cares and political are incompatible—since we do not see the fact to be true in the case of men; and because if the incompatibility be REAL, it will require no extraneous force, neither men nor women needing any law to exclude them from an occupation, when they have undertaken another incompatible with it—and further, we see nothing in the assertion that women do not themselves desire a chance; since we assert that superstitious fears, and dread of loosing man's regard, smother all frank expressions on this point, and if it be their real wish to avoid civil life, laws to keep them out of it are absurd; no legislator ever having thought it necessary to compel people by law to follow their own inclinations.

On motion of Thursey A. Way, the report was accepted, and the resolutions were laid over for discussion, during the Convention.

Emi B. Swank then took the stand and delivered quite a lengthy address, showing the great injustice of the laws and customs of society, that deprive one half of humanity of their natural and unalienable rights, on account of sex.

Mr. Taylor, of Liber College, was called upon and made a few timely and appropriate remarks. On motion of Jane Morrow, J. Mendenhall was then called to the floor.

FRIDAY MORNING.

The President called the house to order, and after the minutes were read and approved, Joseph Mendenhall asked leave to offer a resolution, which was granted. He then offered the following, which he defended in a lengthy speech:

[We have not received a copy of this resolution—*Ed.*]

There was quite a lively discussion followed, in which Mr. Taylor and E. B. Swank opposed the resolution, and Mendenhall, Oren and Mrs. Frankenstein approved.

Mrs. Thursey A. Way then read a letter from Francis D. Gage, of St. Louis, which was full of interest, and wholesome, practical truths.

On motion of Jane Morrow, the letters be presented to the Editors of the Randolph Journal, asking for publication. H. Hiatt made a few very appropriate remarks.

On motion of E. B. Swank, there be a committee of six appointed to decide upon the time and place of holding the next annual

session, also to nominate officers for the ensuing year.

The Convention then adjourned to meet at half past one, P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. President in the chair. The minutes being read and approved, there was a motion prevailed to take the resolutions that were before the Convention, and adopt them one by one. The resolutions elicited considerable discussion, in which E. B. Swank, Mrs. Underhill, J. Mendenhall, Salem Green, Mr. Beason, and Mr. Oren engaged. The following resolution was then offered by A. M. Way:

Resolved, That while we would not undervalue other methods, the right of suffrage for women is the corner stone of this movement.

A motion prevailed to lay the resolution offered by J. Mendenhall upon the table. A beautiful and enthusiastic essay upon woman's wrongs was then read by Thursey A. Way; after which the convention adjourned till 7 o'clock this evening.

EVENING SESSION.

The meeting convened at the appointed time. The President called the house to order, and the minutes were read and approved. The nominating committee made the following report:

The place of holding the next annual Convention—Winchester, some time in October, 1857. Officers for the ensuing year:

President, Mary F. Thomas, Richmond. Vice-Presidents, Sarah Underhill, Indianapolis; Emily Neff, Winchester; E. B. Swank, Huntsville; Elizabeth Wright, Camden; Mary B. Birdsall, Richmond. Secretary, Amanda M. Way, Winchester. Treasurer, L. Matilda Scott, Winchester. Committee of arrangements—Margaret A. Green, Portland; Agnes Cook, Richmond; Lydia Vanderburg, do.; May Ninde, Fort Wayne; Sarah J. Robinson, Winchester; Phebe Swaine, do.

The report was received and adopted by the Convention. Remarks were made by B. Diggs, Sarah Underhill, and Mr. Williamson.

A resolution was offered by Salem Green, and adopted by the meeting, recommending County Conventions being held wherever it was practicable.

On motion adjourned till next October.

AMANDA M. WAY, Pres't.

SILAS COLGROVE, Sec'y.

JANE MORROW, Assistant Sec'y.

From the Ladies Enterprise.

LITTLE ELLA AND THE BEGGAR.

"Go away you naughty little beggar—you shall not sit on my father's steps—go right away,"—and the angry little speaker wrapped in her warm furs, eyed the shadowy thinly clad child with no friendly expression as she took up her little bundle of broken bread and stole timidly off the marble steps where she had stopped for a moment to rest her tired little feet. "And don't you ever come here again," continued the child, springing down one or two of the steps, and frightening the other so much by the movement that she began running, and in her haste to escape, she slipped upon the ice and fell, at which her little tormenter burst into a peal of merry laughter.

"Was that my little daughter Ella that I heard speaking so unkindly?" uttered a grave voice behind the still laughing child. The merriment was stilled, and little Ella dropped her eyes, abashed by the reproachful glance

cast upon her by her father who had been an unobserved spectator of the scene.

"Was that your voice Ella?" repeated Mr. Hersey in a sterner tone.

"Yes papa—but it was only a little beggar girl—and she was so dirty. Mamma gave me leave to come out on the steps and play, and I expected Susan Linden to come too, and I'm sure I should not want her to see me sitting here with my pretty new pellisse on, and that beggar girl here too, and she had such a dirty bundle in her hand, papa. Why I think she was real impudent to come here and sit down with her old torn dress on our nice white steps, don't you papa?" she added, emboldened by the smile which she saw playing for an instant on her father's face.

"Is my daughter any better than the little beggar because she has on a cashmere frock and new pellisse, rather than a torn calico?" questioned Mr. Hersey.

"Why papa," said Ella, "I always thought I was better than a beggar."

"Who made you Ella?" asked her father.

"God," replied the child.

"And who made the little, poor little girl whom you drove off the steps a few minutes ago?"

Ella thought an instant and then answered hesitatingly.

"Why God, I suppose."

"Certainly," replied her father smiling.—"And do you suppose God loves one of his children more than another simply because she has a large house to live in, and a father able to give her a nice new pellisse whenever she wants one?"

"But papa," responded Ella. "Susie Linden says she is better than a poor child, and I am sure I am as good as she is."

"I hope you are better my daughter, if your little friend thinks as she speaks," said Mr. Hersey gravely.

"What day is it to-morrow, Ella?" he continued.

"Why papa, it is Christmas Day—how could you forget?"

"Well my daughter, do you remember who was born on the first Christmas Day—born in a stable and laid in a manger?"

"Yes papa," reverently answered the little girl, "It was our Saviour."

"Right Ella—and was not he poor, poor in the riches of this world? You remember the Bible tells us he had not where to lay his head."

"Oh! dear papa," interrupted the child, bursting into tears. "I was so wicked to send that poor girl away, she was cold and perhaps hungry. Oh! I am afraid God will never forgive me. I wish I could find her and I would give her my new gold piece that you gave me to-day. Do you believe ten dollars would do her any good, papa?" And then—"Oh! papa! papa—there she is now, just a little way from here—please do come quick." And she fairly dragged her father down the street.

"What Ella! you are not going to speak to her surely—and with that new pellisse on too. Why what would Susie Linden say?"

The little girl blushed as she replied, "I don't care papa, what she says, for I know I am doing right," as she ran up to the half frozen child who shrank from her, remembering her unkindness a short time previously—and taking her frost-bitten hands in hers she ran towards her father and said,

"Now papa, please let us hurry home—I'm going to keep this little child to-night may I not? And I will give her one of my warm

frocks. And," she added in a lower tone, "I am going to give her the whole of my ten dollars, and then dear papa, won't God love me then? You know he says, 'Blessed are they that give.'"

A placid smile was Mr. Hersey's reply to Ella—but from the depths of the father's heart welled up to God a deep thanksgiving.

GERTRUDE.

Graham, Oct. 31, 1856.

Acknowledgments.

E. S. Taylor, Jane Baird, Thos. and Beulah Borton, Hannah Adams, Rebecca Hubbell, A. T. Swift, H. McCaslin, Mrs. M. N. Flint, E. K. Blackfan, R. Lovell, Charlotte F. Miller, Mary A. W. Wallace, Lucy Stone, Ellen S. Fox, Emeline A. Kilpatrick, C. P. Stoddard, Mahala Gordon.

A NURSE.

MANDA WARNER tenders her services to the Ladies of Richmond as Nurse; she can be found by inquiring of Dr. Mary F. Thomas on Fort Wayne Avenue, opposite Hicksite Friends' Meeting House.

Richmond, Dec. 1, 1856.

A Temperance Law School.

Will be opened for the reception of students on the first day of October, 1856. The lecture, recitation and *moot-court* rooms are situated at Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Every student must, on admission, pledge himself to strict observance, during his* continuance in the school, of the following *inflexible rules*:

1st. Total abstinence from all that can intoxicate.

2nd. Studious preparation for, and punctual attendance on, *class* examination, which will be conducted according to a *mutual* plan, originated in the State and National Law School.

[There, with opportunity as a professor, having in charge, at the same time, the senior and middle classes, together with their *moot-courts*, the undersigned, not only by experience, but from observation, become convinced that the scheme prescribed for that school is superior to any other which has been devised; although it was not, in every particular, perfectly executed.]

3d. Diligent performance of office business, and regular participation in special motions, trials, arguments and other transactions at *moot-courts*, consisting of a justice's court a court of appeals, and all intermediate N. Y. courts.‡

4th. Prompt attendance on exercises in elocution and debate.‡

5th. Obedience to such regulations as may be ordained by the class, or classes, with consent of the principal.||

WM. HAY.

*Please read "her," as inserted; in which case the first rule or pledge, being altogether unnecessary, is to be omitted.

†The members of a class, (equally divided,) alternately interrogate each other on sections, or subjects assigned, and studied, a day before.

‡Some student prepares a *will*, which is after completed with all preliminary requirements, either admitted to probate, or rejected by the surrogate's court from which there may be an appeal. Another student prepares a *deed*, the covenants contained in which are to be subjects of litigation, for determining the consequences of each covenant; how it can be broken, and what damages are recoverable. The teacher writes a *promissory note*, from which a student is required to expunge all that might have been omitted, without impairing the validity, or materially affecting the force, of such a commercial instrument. Consequent litigation ascertains the rights, remedies and liabilities of all parties. In that process every paper, order, &c., necessary for actual practice, must be prepared, filed, or entered served, criticised &c. All rules of construction, and of evidence, are to be thoroughly investigated, and properly applied. Those instances must suffice for illustration of a plan which is intended to comprise a complete system of jurisprudence. The principal purpose is practically so to instruct a student, that his transition from *moot-courts* to real tribunals, will be almost imperceptible. Examination of applicants for admission to practice as attorneys in the supreme court, and exhibition of counselors at its special, and other terms, have satisfied every lawyer that such methodical preparation, as is herein proposed, has become indispensable.

The teacher being a mere "business man," (of more than 40 years experience, however,) will lecture to impart practical knowledge, and not for personal display of which he is neither

capable nor desirous. He will attend all the *moot-courts*, inspect (at suitable time and place,) papers prepared for summary proceedings, or other purposes, (especially preventive, and in addition to mutual class examination, converse unceremoniously concerning matters not sufficiently explained in text books. He will be content with reasonable reward, remunerating for actual disbursements, (without constructive charges about expenses never incurred) and compensating for labor that interferes with his professional pursuits.

§ Courteous criticism, concerning both manner and matter, will be invited from the class. Every speaker shall be advised to cultivate his natural style, by correcting its defects, and especially to avoid mere imitation, always disgusting and often ridiculous.

¶ At all events—however much it may fail to accomplish in other respects—its patrons, (if any such there may be,) and the public are respectfully assured that (unlike many universities, colleges, academies and other seminaries of learning,) the Temperance Law School—humble and unendowed as it is—will neither cause, nor increase, idleness or drunkenness.

P. S.—Tobacco is not absolutely prohibited; but its disuse, on account of immoral tendency, and for mental and physical health and cleanliness, is earnestly recommended.

Farmer's Institute.

THIS Institution is situated in a beautiful grove about eight miles south-west of Lafayette. A wholesome moral influence prevades the community, and the neighborhood is considered as healthy as any in the country.

The Scholastic Year is divided into two sessions of 21 weeks each. The next term, the first of the Scholastic Year, will commence on Second day, the 2nd of 10th Month, 1856.

An excellent boarding establishment is connected with the Institution, and belonging to the School is a valuable Philosophical, Chemical and Astronomical Apparatus; a Manikin and complete sets of Physiological and Astronomical Plates and Maps; also a good Library which is to have an addition of about 500 volumes this fall.

A portion of the Holy Scriptures will be read each day on opening and closing the School, and no effort will be spared to promote the moral as well as the intellectual improvement of the Scholars.

The Western Literary Union offers every facility for improvement in discussion, composition, &c. Lectures will be delivered during the Session on Natural Philosophy, Meteorology, Chemistry, Physiology and Astronomy.

The course of studies embraced in the First Department, is Spelling, McGuffie's 1st, 2nd and 3rd Readers, First lessons in Mental and Written Arithmetic, Parker's first lessons in Philosophy and Cornell's Primary Geography.

Second Department.—Arithmetic, Stoddard; Written Arithmetic, Ray; English Grammer, Covell; Geography, Colton and Fitch; Reading, McGuffie's 4th and 5th Readers; History, U. S. Bernard; Astronomy, Smith; Writing.

Third Department.—Arithmetic, Stoddard's Practical; Parsing; Natural Philosophy, Parker's Revised; Astronomy, Brocklesby; Geography of the Heavens, Burritt; Chemistry, Johnston's Turner; Meteorology, Brocklesby; Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene, Cutler; Elocution, Bronson; Algebra, Alsop; Geometry, Davies' Legendre; Surveying, Gummire; Mensuration, Bonycastle; Botany, Woods; Moral Philosophy, Wayland; Political Economy, Wayland; Intellectual Philosophy, Abercrombie; Rhetoric, Newman.

EXPENSE AND PAYMENTS.

Tuition is per Session—In the 1st Department, \$ 5 00
" " " " " 2nd " 8 00
" " " " " 3rd " 10 00

Boarding, per Session, 42 00
For Washing, 25 cents per week, will be charged extra. Scholars will find their own lights. Those who have warm clothing for beds will confer a favor by bringing quilts, comforters, or blankets with them.

Daniel H. Roberts, who has been employed as Principal Teacher in the Institute, will also take charge of the Boarding House.

One-half payment for board and tuition will be expected in advance; the balance at the middle of the Session.

No deduction will be made for absence except in cases of protracted sickness.

Nov. 15, 1856 22tf

Bedford Harmonial Seminary.

THIS Institute is beautifully located on a delightful plain, five miles west of Battle Creek, Mich.

Good accommodations can be procured in the large boarding houses and in private families, on reasonable terms.

The object of the Institute is to accommodate a liberal and progressive class of minds. Males and Females are admitted on the same conditions.

The Latin, Greek and French Languages, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Instrumental Music and English studies constitute the course of instruction. 106 different students attended last year.

For any information respecting the school, address H. CORNELL, Principal.

Harmonia, Mich.

